RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

TO ALL RETIRED PERSONNEL OF THE MILITARY SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES

With the greatest pleasure I extend Christmas greetings to all Retired Personnel of the Military Services of the United States. May this Christmas and the year to come be marked with peace and happiness for you and your families.

It should add to your pleasure through the year to know that your able and unselfish service has played an important part in the achievement of American ideals and now serves to inspire those following in your path.

James Forrestal

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Published Quarterly By The

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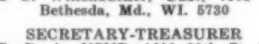

Season's Greetings

To all of Our Members and Their Families go the Very Best Wishes of the President, Directors and Staff of the Association for a Most Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

THE PLACE OF THE RETIRED OFFICER IN THE NATIONAL SCHEME OF THINGS

A retired officer is, by the very nature of his status, a great asset to the nation. It must never be assumed that he is a worn out piece of obsolete military equipment. Indeed, his service background justly entitles him to the claim of a "Seasoned Veteran" in the strictest sense. Having been tried and found true, he is eminently fitted for various positions of great trust and responsibility.

Having given, in the majority of cases, many long years of self-sacrificing service, he is thoroughly indoctrinated in discipline, devotion to duty and respect for duly constituted authority. He is aware of the high traditions of the services and is everlastingly faithful to the noble purposes upon which those traditions are founded.

During his years of service, he has seen life and he has seen death, both in the normal course and in war. He has had some of his men come to request leave of absence because the wife is about to have a baby; while others have requested leave of absence because of the passing of a parent. Though distressing, those are realities that are faced and met with sympathetic understanding and dispatch.

The very essence of military training is a preparedness for war and we pride our services in attaining great proficiency in that respect. Yet, the thought of preparation for actual battle has never afforded a military leader—be he great or small—the slightest reason for elation. He knows the heavy heart which is the companion of death and destruction. He is not inhumane, but rather is one motivated by high principles and galvanized into action when the safety and dignity of his country and the individual freedoms of its people are threatened.

Understandably, therefore, because of the qualities they have developed, our officer personnel and, particularly those who have gained surcease from the strenuous and exacting labors of active duty over the years, have a very definite place and responsibility in "Our National Scheme of Things".

Primarily, their desire is for peace and friendly relations among nations, for they realize that is the only condition under which the inter-change of trade and commerce brings prosperity to the national treasuries of the world and good-will among men, generally.

Personnel of the military profession are, consequently, men of unusual attainments, endowed through training and experience with a vast knowledge of worldly affairs. Having served abroad in many lands as "guardians of the peace" or, if you prefer, as "ambassadors of good-will", they have developed a high regard for the rights of others as well as a desire to be mutually helpful and cooperative.

When, therefore, retirement finally comes to the officer who has either served the limit of statutory retirement, or whose military career has been halted as a result of physical disability, he is hopeful that he shall never be regarded as a worn out piece of obsolete military equipment, but rather one who is privileged to "carry on" for God and Country.

He can, by his own good example, assist materially in setting a pattern for enduring world peace—meanwhile advocating a strong and effective National Defense—to preserve that peace. This mission will bridge the hitherto open gap between active duty and retired status which it is our purpose to keep forever bridged, so as definitely and permanently to establish "The Place of the Retired Officer in Our National Scheme of Things".

YOUR BULLETIN LOOKS FORWARD

Your Bulletin is the journalistic voice of National Headquarters. Its circulation to our members is now 12,620, and still growing.

Its major purpose is to inform our membership about important pending issues of concern to them, to outline the benefits and opportunities of retired officers, and otherwise to furnish information of general interest.

The policy governing publication of the Bulletin is not so much that of periodic reporting of past or current news as it is of looking ahead in its field, of initiating vigorous leadership in the improvement of the benefits and opportunities of retired officers, their dependents and survivors, and of formulating in advance a strong defense to meet the challenge of any threat which might affect the fortunes and destinies of retired officers, their dependents and survivors.

Growing reader interest is the barometer by which our successes are measured. We therefore encourage our members to express their ideas freely on that subject.

Suffice it to say that we are continually striving to make this publication—*your* Bulletin—one which may, in the not too distant future, be accepted by all retired personnel as an authoritative source of information on current trends dealing directly or indirectly with their official affairs.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOUNDED

After much study and discussion, an Association sponsored Scholarship Program has been approved by the Board of Directors.

This recent action is a progressive step toward achieving one of the Association's primary objectives. We believe and feel our members will agree that it is of paramount importance for the Association to participate in furthering educational opportunities for those sons and daughters of retired officers or their widows who, for economic reasons, are unable to meet required expenses for entrance into service academies, colleges or universities of their choice.

The plan, as established, provides:

(1) That in keeping with the third tenet of its preamble, it is the purpose of the Association to aid retired personnel of the various services from which our members are drawn in every proper and legitimate manner.

(2) That the creation of a scholarship fund by solicitation of contributions from our members and others who desire to assist in this highly desirable and worthwhile project is definitely consistent with the purpose above stated.

(3) That such funds as may be contributed be maintained in a separate bank account.

(4) That beginning with the next classes to enter the Military, Naval or Coast Guard academies, our Association make known its willingness to extend a loan, not to exceed $300 in each case, to one candidate entering each one of the said service academies each year, based upon character, scholastic aptitude and need, to the son of a retired officer or of the widow of a retired officer. Further, that a similar loan, not to exceed $300 be extended to one son or daughter of a retired officer or of the widow of a retired officer each year, to assist in defraying the necessary expense for entrance into a civilian college or university of the choice of the individual.

(5) That each such loan should be made with the understanding that it will be repaid upon graduation or within a reasonable time after leaving the academy, college or university.

(6) That a standing Scholarship Committee be appointed to make such determinations and recommendations as it may deem appropriate, for submission to the Board of Directors for approval in each case.

(7) That other than as provided in item (4) above, no other scholarship projects be initiated at this time, but that the Scholarship Committee be charged with the responsibility of submitting further recommendations as the availability of funds and opportunity for this work may permit.

(8) That the President of the Association, from time to time, attempt to obtain from appropriate colleges and universities the establishment of scholarships for the Association to be awarded worthy sons and daughters of retired military personnel.

In token of its sincerity to inaugurate and support this program, the members of your Scholarship Committee were the first to make contribution to the fund necessary to activate operation of the plan and a separate bank account has been opened, called "THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND". It is anticipated that the members of our Board of Directors will make similar initial contributions.

Needless to say, the real development of this program requires full membership support. We therefore earnestly appeal to each and every one of our members who feel willing and able to contribute to this most worthy cause to do so in any amount possible. Any contributions, however small, will be gratefully received. Please make checks payable to "THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND", or otherwise indicate that contributions made are to be credited to that account. Contributions to this fund are deductible for income tax purposes.

The success of this program will be everlastingly to the benefit of those whom it assists and to the credit of the Association in making available the opportunities of higher education to those who would otherwise be deprived of such advantages.

Help us to give some worthy boy or girl a chance to develop into an active, useful citizen. The world needs leaders for tomorrow's problems. *Your* support will assist materially in making effective our program designed to provide and equip those leaders.

DUAL COMPENSATION

Prompted by the great interest expressed by many of our members and consistent with the policies of the Association, an effort is being made to obtain a modification of existing laws dealing with dual compensation in their application to retired officers of the military services.

In order to further active consideration of the situation with a view to accomplishing the desired changes, our President has addressed the Secretary of Defense, outlining the following factors dealing with the subject.

Under the provisions of the Act of July 31, 1894 (U.S.C. 1940 edition, title 5, sec. 62), and Section 212 of the Act of June 30, 1932 (U.S.C. 1940 edition, title 5, sec. 59a), retired officers of the military services who have been retired for causes other than physical disability and who are in receipt of retired pay are in many cases severely restricted and in most cases prohibited from accepting positions under the federal government. This situation is one of mutual denial, for competent individuals desiring to serve are not permitted to do so, and at the same time the government is deprived of the services of individuals who, by training and experience, are ably fitted to serve it loyally and well—services the government sorely needs, for example, in the development of atomic energy and other technical fields.

Unless otherwise provided by law, retired officers in receipt of retired pay are prohibited from holding a civilian position or office with the federal government where either the rate of retired pay or the rate of compensation fixed for the civilian position or office amounts to $2500 per annum, unless (1) elected thereto, or (2) appointed by the President with

Senate confirmation, or (3) retired because of battle injuries or incapacities incurred in line of duty. (5 U.S.C. sec. 62; 13 Comp. Gen. 60; 21 Comp. Gen.)

Except as otherwise noted herein, where a retired officer is permitted to accept and has qualified for and accepted appointment to a civilian office or position under the federal government or the municipal government of the District of Columbia, or under any corporation the majority of whose stock is owned by the United States, the combined rate of his compensation in such civilian office or position and his retired pay for or on account of commissioned services is limited by law to $3000 per annum. Where the retired pay amounts to or exceeds $2500 and employment in a civilian position is authorized, as in the cases of those elected to office or appointed to office with Senate confirmation and those retired for physical disability, and where the retired pay exceeds $3000, the retired officer may receive only one pay and must therefore elect whether he will continue to receive his retired pay or the pay of the civilian office or position, except that those retired for disability incurred in combat or from an explosion of an instrumentality of war may receive both the retired pay and the pay of the civilian office or position. Should he give up his retired pay while holding a civil office or position, he may again receive his retired pay when he relinquishes his civilian office or position. (Act of June 30, 1932, sec. 212, 47 Stat. 406, as amended by the Act of July 15, 1940, sec. 3, 54 Stat. 761; 5 U.S.C. section 59a.) One example of the application of the law is that an officer who receives retired pay of $2900 per annum and is employed in a civilian office or position with a salary of $2800 per annum would be paid at a net rate of $3000 per annum. (12 Comp. Gen. 37, 47.) In an opinion rendered on 17 January 1947 (B-62616) the Comptroller General held that the Veterans Administration may pay compensation to retired officers employed as consultants when the payment of that compensation exceeds the $3000 statutory limitation imposed by Section 212 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended, provided this compensation is based on a specific amount per visit as differentiated from a per annum, per diem, or other time element basis.

Officers who have been "retired for disability incurred in combat with an enemy of the United States", or pursuant to the Act of July 15, 1940 (54 Stat. 761; 38 U.S.C. 582b), "for disabilities resulting from an explosion of an instrumentality of war in line of duty during an enlistment or employment as provided in Veterans Administration regulation numbered 1(a), part I, paragraph I", are exempted from the requirements of said section 212. The first quoted clause has been defined by the Comptroller General to apply to officers "retired for disability the direct result of injury from the instrumentalities of war employed by the enemy in combat with the forces of the United States", as, for example, where the disability necessitating retirement was directly due to inhaling poison gas during combat with an enemy of the United States. (Comp. Gen. January 3, 1933, A-44756.)

It has been held by both the Judge Advocate General of the Army and the Judge Advocate General of the Navy that the incurrence of disability "in combat with an enemy" has consistently required some showing of an operation or incident involving combat or the likelihood of combat, although the disability need not have been incurred as a direct result of enemy action. However, in the opinion of both, disability which is conceded to have had its onset during captivity as a prisoner of war in an enemy prison camp during wartime is not considered as having been incurred "in combat" with an enemy of the United States.

Thus, except as noted above, the federal government is deprived of the opportunity to engage the services of any retired officer who has been retired for other than physical disability in cases where his retired pay is equal to or exceeds $2500 per annum and, in cases where his retired pay is less, the individual may receive no more than an aggregate of $3000 per annum. The laws under which this situation was created were passed in 1894 and 1932 during times of different economic and world conditions than those which exist today. Because of these factors, it should be obvious to all that these laws now require change.

Previously, on 14 March 1947, the Association brought this matter to the attention of the present Secretary of Defense when he was Secretary of the Navy. The then Secretary of the Navy informed our President in reply of his recognition of the need for clarification of this subject and that he had instructed his Chief, Office of Industrial Relations, to confer with officials of the Civil Service Commission with the request that consideration be expedited in order that the Congress might consider certain specific recommendations. It must be recognized that this is a matter which would require considerable time to formulate specific recommendations concerning which reasonable agreement can be reached by those whom the changes would affect—as for example, principally between retired officers of the uniformed services and the civilian employees of the government who may feel that change might tend to jeopardize their opportunities for employment by the federal government. While the suggested changes should enlarge substantially the opportunities of the federal government to employ those retired officers in civilian capacities, conversely, the changes should not contemplate any wholesale employment of former military personnel in positions customarily held by civilians without military background.

While no action was taken by the 80th Congress to modify the basic restrictions, two laws were passed to relieve some of the individuals affected by the application of the laws in question. Public Law 709 (80th Congress) removed certain retroactive checkages of retired pay in the cases of certain former warrant officers and enlisted men appointed or advanced to commissioned rank or grade, under the Act of July 24, 1941 (55 Stat. 603), which checkages were made as the result of the dual compensation laws. Section 3 of Public Law 709 (80th Congress), with reference to the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, and Section 204 of Public Law 810 (80th Congress), with reference to personnel of the Army and Air Force, authorized certain retired commissioned officers, within three months of the dates of the enactment of those laws, to request restoration to their former warrant officer or enlisted status in order that they might continue to be employed by the federal government, in view of the fact that warrant officers and enlisted men are not subject to the provisions of the dual compensation laws. While that action may have provided a temporary solution to one onerous application of the dual compensation laws, it is our considered opinion that the solution to this problem should have been reached through a general change in the basic laws rather than by a temporary expedient applicable to relatively few individuals by authorizing them to renounce military rank to which they had been advanced on their own merits in the service of their country during crucial wartimes.

In the light of the present situation and the general recognition by all who have studied the question that a change in the basic laws is necessary, it has been recommended that this matter be given early consideration with a view to removing the present restrictions so that the federal government may have the benefit of the services of tried, true and experienced retired military personnel in civilian positions and to afford those personnel opportunity for service in the federal government open to other citizens.

Specifically, the changes we recommend are: Repeal of section 212 of the Act of June 30, 1932; and Amendment of the Act of July 31, 1894, so as to enlarge the opportunities of retired military personnel further to serve their government in civilian capacities for which their training and experience ably fit them.

We have been informed that maximum effort will be made by the Department of Defense to support these proposed changes.

HOUSING NEEDS FOR SERVICE FAMILIES

The home—the most basic of all American institutions—is the place where the future of our country is formed. In it the thoughts and actions of children are guided to make them into useful citizens. A happy home is a haven where the family is welded together and where there is one common interest—the future of that home and its family circle.

Only in a home where children are loved and accorded the consideration and respect due an individual can they derive the emotional security needed to face the problems and adjustments of life.

To meet these conditions, growing concern has been expressed in the press and elsewhere over the lack of adequate homes. As a consequence, great civilian housing projects are in stages of progress and completion all over the country.

Now many families who have formerly been separated for long periods are joined together under a single roof again to take up family life where it was so abruptly broken off for lack of adequate housing.

Hence, it will be seen that the home is a vital and necessary institution—essential to the molding and character building of tomorrow's leaders—and on that basis it would seem that, as a result of the careful planning and consideration being given, the problem is, at least, on the road to solution.

But for personnel of the National Military Establishment with families, however, the surface has not even been scratched. In the majority of instances, housing at military bases is so pitifully inadequate that many officers and men have to wait about a year before reaching the top of the service housing lists which schedule the limited number of homes available for use. By that time their tours of duty at the particular base are nearly two-thirds completed and they are faced shortly thereafter with a further separation—exorbitant rentals for horrid small houses or apartments—wives are forced to leave their children during the day and seek employment to help meet expenses—all of which create other serious disruptions of normal service life.

Marriage among service personnel is not uncommon. Many of our officers and men are married—faithfully and happily. More than for any other walk of life, these families deserve to spend every possible minute together, because all too frequently the men are called to duty at places where it is not practicable for their families to join them for extended periods.

Certainly, if these men must be available for irregular calls to duty away from their families in the interests of national security, they should be provided with the assurance and the opportunity of having their families with them when circumstances permit.

Without question, the housing situation is as great, if not greater, a problem within the services as in civilian life. It is but natural for a man who loves his family to want to be with them as much as he can. Servicemen are human, with as much affection for their families as anyone else. Moreover, servicemen discipline themselves to accept personal sacrifices without question, but they are, and rightfully so, more exacting when it comes to their families. A grateful nation owes it to these men to supply them with the pleasures and comforts of home life as and when military assignments permit, and it is hoped that serious consideration will be given by the 81st Congress to improvement in living conditions for our military personnel.

Let them remember the old adage—for want of a nail the shoe was lost. Let it not be said that—for want of modest homes for their families, increasing numbers of trained, tried and true defenders of our country's liberties will be lost, to the detriment of our national interests.

Incidentally, housing for servicemen is neither a gratuity nor a bounty. As as matter of fact, it is paid for by realistic deductions from the serviceman's allowances and, thus, may be regarded properly a long-range, self-liquidating project.

Failure to approve more service homes of the types desperately needed at this time will do much to destroy a healthy condition of morale among service families, which is the key to service efficiency—particularly at a time when all the services are expanded far beyond their pre-war strengths.

LIFE BEGINS AT 50

Dr. Wingate Johnson, a vigorous man of 63, an outstanding medical authority and chief of the private diagnostic clinic of the Bowman-Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest College, recently set forth in a public address a few helpful hints on how to overcome the more common problems of adjustment to advancing age.

Life's aging process, explained Dr. Johnson begins at birth and continues to the grave. What he proposes, however, is a more pleasant approach to "life after 50," when muscles become flabbier and bones more brittle; the joints stiffen; eyesight and hearing lose their former acuity; the human motor—the heart—shows effect of the mileage it has covered; and in men, certain other organisms might "act up."

To offset undue demands on muscles and to guard against the breaking of bones, vigorous exercise is seldom required. After 50, the onset of arthritis is less crippling than in the infectious or rheumatoid type prevalent at younger ages. Normally, older men show better resistance to infectious diseases. Migraine usually disappears 'round about the mid-century mark; diabetes is known to be less severe; and progress in cancer is somewhat retarded.

A great disturber of old age, continued Dr. Johnson, is enforced retirement from work at a stated age—while still in possession of one's mental faculties. He suggested that those already in or approaching retired status should look to broader horizons, seek new outside interests and "taper off" to more free afternoons, engage in frequent weekend outings and take longer summer vacations.

He further pointed out that it is desirable to develop hobbies, cultivate new friendships and accept situations, generally, with a tempered and more tolerant and mature point of view.

Dr. Johnson recommended recreation rather than exercise as a means of keeping fit, although he is not opposed to "reasonable" exercise for this group, provided it is not overdone.

By following the above formula, a man can create a healthier frame of mind; one conducive to happier and longer life. Dr. Johnson concluded that this may not be so exciting, but it can be fun.

Aside and apart from the theories of Dr. Johnson, medical science today is in general agreement that, if you're 50 or over, chances are you're at your best. But, they point out to make the autumn years of life the best, we must—

(1) Keep on learning. The mind is able and willing.

(2) Don't kid yourself that you have no imagination. Develop it and make it pay dividends.

(3) Maintain an open mind and don't be too sensitive to criticism. Remember that to know your faults is the first step in correcting them.

(4) Don't indulge in inactivity. There is always plenty to do.

LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK—81st CONGRESS

GENERAL SITUATION—Early in November President Truman called upon all government agencies to submit to him prior to 1 December the new proposed legislation they consider are needed in their particular field.

The White House directive also asked respective heads of all departments, bureaus and commissions to report on any subjects that might form the basis for new or corrective legislation which they desired to be included in the President's State of the Union message and his economic message to be delivered shortly after Congress convenes in January.

In anticipation of the above instructions, the Department of Defense had previously established legislative procedures and tentatively outlined its expected legislative program.

Under the National Defense legislative program, the three military departments (Army, Navy and Air Force) will handle detailed legislative operations under the central control of the office of the Secretary of Defense. These procedures apply both to the initiation of legislative proposals within the National Military Establishment for presentation to the Bureau of the Budget and the Congress, and to the preparation of reports and comments by the National Military Establishment on bills originating in other executive departments or in the Congress. Adoption of such procedure, which requires approval of the three departments, was a step in the evolution of means to handle legislation in pursuance of unification. That is to say, legislation proposed by any one of the services, and comments or recommendations concerning legislation, could be sent to the Bureau of the Budget or to the Congress only with the concurrence of the other two services. In the event of a disagreement, the issue will be referred to the Secretary of Defense to be by him resolved before leaving the National Military Establishment.

Major General Wilton B. Persons, USA, has been designated Director of Legislative Liaison. Assisted by legislative officials of the three military departments, he heads the central legislative office, which acts as the central agency of contact between the National Military Establishment and the Committees and Members of Congress.

As to the 1949 military legislative program, it is expected to include proposals to—(1) reorganize the Department of Defense as recommended by the Hoover Commission; (2) reorganize the Reserves; (3) revise military pay scales; (4) create a National Civil Defense Organization; (5) obtain funds for military housing; (6) resolve differences between the Air Force and Naval Aviation; (7) seek greater military control over atomic energy; (8) obtain UMT and extension of Selective Service; and (9) provide military supplies for defense alliances.

At this point, a word of explanation is submitted as to how *your* Association fits into the over-all legislative picture. It maintains files dealing with questions involving existing laws and regulations and where discriminations against the rights, benefits and opportunities of retired officers are found it brings these matters, in every proper manner, to the attention of the respective departments and agencies of the federal government having jurisdiction over them and suggests appropriate modification or amendment of such laws or regulations to remove the discriminations to improve the interests of retired personnel, generally. When such matters are presented to the Congress, *your* Association submits to the Committees handling them, carefully prepared briefs and statements setting forth in detail the Association's views upon corrective measures, and upon new legislation designed to bring about better conditions for retired personnel and their dependents.

SERVICE PAY REVISION—Among the proposals expected to be included in the 1949 military legislative program of particular interest to our members is revision of military pay scales, the great need for which has been stated at length in previous editions of the Bulletin.

Factual information with respect to the specific details of this proposal will not be available until after a meeting of the Secretary of Defense with the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force, and with the Civilian Advisory Commission on Armed Services Pay which has made an exhaustive study of the subject. Such meeting is expected to be held during the latter part of November, after which the final draft will be completed and the matter resolved for submission to the Congress.

Other items of legislation of great interest and importance to our members, which it is expected will receive the consideration they merit in the new Congress, are the following:

DUAL COMPENSATION—Need for modification and amendment of existing laws, in this connection, and of the Association's recent action in bringing this matter to the attention of the Secretary of Defense is discussed fully elsewhere in this edition.

EQUALIZATION OF CREDITS FOR SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES FOR PAY AND LONGEVITY PURPOSES—a legislative proposal understood to be under consideration within the Armed Services is one looking toward the equalization of credits for service in the Armed Forces for pay and longevity purposes by including certain types of service which were inadvertently overlooked in the Pay Readjustment Act of 1942, as amended. These services include service as cadets, as midshipmen, or as aviation cadets, certain service in the Officers' Reserve Corps, the Medical Reserve Corps of the Army, and service as a contract surgeon while so serving on a full-time basis. The Pay Readjustment Act of 1942 now credits 20 classifications of service, many of which by way of comparison involve less active duty than those services which have heretofore been overlooked as deserving of credit.

It will be recalled that one of these proposals, namely to extend credit for service as a cadet, midshipman or aviation cadet, was up for consideration in the 80th Congress, with the full approval of all agencies of the government under which such services are, or have been, performed, and the bill which would have authorized credit for such services (S. 657), was passed by the Senate and reported favorably to the House by the House Committee on Armed Services, but failed of enactment in the 80th Congress for lack of time to consider it in the log jam of legislation during the closing days of the Congress.

CREDIT FOR SERVICE IN WORLD WAR I—A provision of the Pay Readjustment Act of 1942 authorizes those officers of the regular services who were retired subsequent to 1 June 1942, otherwise entitled to retirement and who had served in World War I, to compute their retired pay at 75% of their active duty pay. Other provisions of law permit many other officers the same opportunity and all of the laws taken together result in a clear discrimination against a small group of retired officers of the regular services, retired prior to 1 June 1942, by failing to entitle them to the same opportunities, although in most cases they have performed more active duty than many to whom the present benefits apply.

This matter was up for consideration in the 80th Congress (S. 301 and H.R. 1035). Hearings were held on the latter bill before a Sub-committee, Committee on Armed Services, where it was conceded that an appropriate amendment to present laws should be made to extend equal opportunity to all. Difficulty in connection with the enactment of such a law arose from differences between the Army and the Navy as to certain features of the application of the proposed legislation, due to a situation which was eliminated by the enactment of P.L. 810 (80th Congress). Late in the 80th Congress, the Army and Navy Departments were in agreement that appropriate legislation should be enacted to remove the discrimination and the Committee on Armed Services was so

informed. Unfortunately, however, insufficient time remained in the session to accomplish the necessary work and the proposed legislation died in committee.

It is understood that a proposal will be made to the 81st Congress to correct this manifest injustice.

PROSECUTION OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT BY RETIRED OFFICERS—The Association recently addressed a letter to the Secretary of Defense urging prompt recommendation of legislation to change or modify Section 109 of the Criminal Code. This section prohibits retired regular (not Reserve) officers of the military components from acting as agents or attorneys or from assisting in the prosecution of claims against the United States. Hearings were held 21 April 1948 on S. 156, which attempted to modify the restriction to prohibit only the prosecution of claims involving the department in whose service an officer holds retired status, but the measure failed of enactment. The Department of Defense advises that an effort will be made to support this proposed change.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS—Other subjects regarding which legislative activity might well be expected by the 81st Congress, include: tax exclusion or exemption of military pay; extension of present medical and hospital benefits for all retired personnel and their dependents; pension legislation (including raising of the income limitation governing the right to receive pensions by widows of veterans of World War I); modification of existing law so as to make retired medical and dental officers recalled to active duty subsequent to 1 September 1947 eligible to receive the $100 per month additional pay which is now paid to other retired medical and dental officers.

Careful attention will be given by *your* National Headquarters to the progress of the above and all other legislative measures as may be introduced affecting the interests of our members and their dependents, and every proper means will be taken to insure that appropriate briefs, statements and presentations will be made whenever the circumstances indicate such procedure to be necessary or desirable.

RETIRED FEMALE OFFICERS OF THE ARMY

A recent change in Army Regulations provides that female officers of the Army will be advanced on the retired list to a grade with relative rank equal to the highest grade in which, or to the highest relative or commissioned rank with which they served satisfactorily on active duty during the period 9 September 1940-30 June 1946, whichever is higher, and they will receive retired pay at the rate prescribed by law of such relative or commisioned rank.

This new change provides (1) each member of the Army Nurse Corps, established by Chapter V of the Act of July 9, 1918, as amended, each female dietitian or physical therapist appointed pursuant to the Act of December 22, 1942, each female officer appointed pursuant to the Act of June 22, 1944, and each member of the Army Nurse Corps or Women's Medical Specialist Corps appointed pursuant to Public Law 36 (80th Congress), heretofore or hereafter retired under any provision of law shall be advanced on the retired list to a grade with relative rank equal to the highest grade in which, or to the highest relative or commissioned rank with which, she served satisfactorily on active duty, as determined by the Secretary of the Army, during the period 9 September 1940-30 June 1946, whichever is higher, and shall receive retired pay at the rate prescribed by law computed on the basis of the base and longevity pay she would receive if serving on active duty in such grade or with such relative commissioned rank; (2) nothing contained in (1) above shall be construed to deprive any person of any higher retired grade or rank, or any greater retired or retirement pay to which she may be entitled under any other provision of law; and (3) no back pay or allowances prior to 29 June 1948 shall accrue to any person by reason of the provisions of (1) above.

BURIAL IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES

At its meeting on 8 October 1948 the Board of Directors voted to make the Committee on National Cemeteries a standing committee, so that it might continue to follow and make recommendations concerning the regulations governing burial in national cemeteries in order to more closely accord to the wishes of those entitled to this privilege.

Present regulations covering eligibility for burial, reservations which must be made for widows and dependents, and specifications for private monuments are controlled by the Quartermaster General of the Army.

ELIGIBILITY. Those entitled to burial in national cemeteries include:

a. ARMY. (1) Officers, warrant officers, contract surgeons, cadets, nurses, Women's Army Corps personnel, enlisted men, and accepted applicants for enlistment. Members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps are not entitled to burial in a national cemetery; (2) Officers and enlisted men of the National Guard who have been called or drafted into Federal Service; (3) Officers and enlisted men of the Organized Reserves who have rendered active duty other than for the purpose of receiving training and instructions in their assignments. A reserve commission alone does not entitle the recipient to the privilege of burial in a national cemetery.

b. NAVY. (1) Officers, warrant officers, cadets, nurses, and enlisted men; (2) Officers and enlisted men of the Naval Reserve, including the Women's Nurses, USNR, who have rendered active duty other than for the purpose of receiving training; (3) Accepted applicants for enlistment.

c. MARINE CORPS. (1) Officers, warrant officers, and enlisted men; (2) Officers and enlisted men of the Marine Corps Reserve and members of the Women's Reserve who have rendered active duty other than for the purpose of receiving training and instruction.

d. COAST GUARD. (1) Officers, cadets, enlisted men, and SPARS; (2) Members of the Coast Guard Reserve who have rendered active service.

e. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY. Personnel transferred to the service and jurisdiction of the Department of the Army, or the Department of the Navy, by the President, and serving therewith in time of a national emergency; also those on duty with the Coast and Geodetic Survey in the Philippine Islands on 7 December 1941.

f. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE. Officers and employees of the Public Health Service who were detailed with the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard, pursuant to the Act of 1 July 1902 (32 Stat. 712), as amended (Act 14 Aug. 1912; 37 Stat. 309; 42 U.S.C. 8; M.L. 1939, sec. 2170), are not entitled to burial in national cemeteries. However, under Executive Order 9575, 28 June 1945, all officers of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service who served at any time during the period of World War II, and whose services were honorable, are entitled to "full military benefits," which entitles them to burial in national cemeteries regardless of when death occurs. Dependents of these officers are entitled to the same burial privileges as are afforded dependents of all commissioned officers of the regular Military establishment.

g. CITIZENS SERVING IN WORLD WAR I. Any citizen of the United States who served in the Army or Navy of any government at war with Germany or Austria during World War I, and who died while in such service or after honorable discharge therefrom, and who was a citizen of the United States at the time of such service.

Those members of the families of service personnel who are accorded the same privilege include the wives, husbands, widows and widowers of officers and enlisted men and women members of the Armed Forces. Neither the widows or widowers or servicemen or women who have remarried, nor the divorced wives or husbands of servicemen and women are accorded such burial. Minor children and unmarried adult daughters (daughters who have never married, widows and divorcees) may be buried in the grave sites or the lots

assigned to servicemen or women and in which interment has already been made. Mothers and non-service fathers cannot be buried with their sons or daughters in national cemeteries.

RESERVATIONS. When the serviceman or woman is buried first, the widow or widower if not remarried in the interval, may be buried in the same lot, if space is available. In those cemeteries where separate officers' sections exist and lots containing two grave sites have been assigned to deceased married officers, an adjoining grave site is automatically reserved for the widow or widower. An adjoining grave site will be reserved for the widow or widower of a serviceman or woman *only* if written request is made at the time of initial burial. If verbal request is made at the time of burial, it must be followed by a written confirmation. The written request to hold the reservation must be submitted to the superintendent of the national cemetery by the particular survivor *every two years* from the date of the original reservation. This reservation will be canceled if the request for renewal has not been received within thirty days from the expiration of the two-year period. However, cancellation of an adjoining grave site reservation does not cancel the privilege extended to the survivor of burial in the same grave with the deceased previously interred.

These are the only instances of reservation or assignment of grave sites in advance of their use. The burial of minor children and unmarried adult daughters is permitted in the grave sites or the lot assigned to a serviceman or woman and in which an interment has already been made.

HEADSTONES. When burial is in a national cemetery, the Quartermaster General will supply unasked (for graves of officers and enlisted men and women) white marble headstones which conform to the approved specifications. The inscriptions on these headstones consist of the name of the decedent, the rank, pertinent service data in the armed forces as shown in official records, dates of birth and death, and the state from which the decedent came. The next of kin are given the opportunity to indicate a religious emblem, the date of birth and the state. When burial is in a private cemetery, headstones or markers, if desired, will be furnished and shipped without expense by the Quartermaster General for the unmarked graves of individuals whose last service in the armed forces terminated honorably. Application for these markers should be made to the Cemeterial Division, Office of the Quartermaster General.

Regulation headstones are provided for graves of officers and enlisted men and women without charge. In the case of minor children and unmarried adult daughters, an appropriate inscription may be added to the private monument in cemeteries where this is permitted, or a footstone of approved type may be installed at private expense. Private monuments are not allowed in newly established national cemeteries or in new sections of existing national cemeteries in which private monuments were authorized as of 1 January 1947. In each case authority must be granted by the Quartermaster General and detailed drawings or blueprints must be submitted in advance for approval.

Specifications for such monuments are exacting with regard to inscription, type of lettering and cutting, material, insignia, plates, dimensions and finish. Detailed information regarding specifications may be obtained from the office of the Quartermaster General.

EXPENSES, ALLOWANCES. The Veterans Administration will make payment of $150 toward the expenses of burial of veterans of a war, whether burial is in a private or a national cemetery. Application and detailed information can be obtained from the Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C. The Quartermaster General will pay an allowance up to $75 toward expenses when burial is in a private cemetery.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY. The Quartermaster General will, upon request, supply detailed information about shipment and notification when burial is desired in Arlington National Cemetery. In such cases, however, no reservations or arrangements can be made until after death has occurred.

It is desired to point out that the above regulations are now in the process of revision, and some of the above information will be subject to change when the new regulations are published by the Quartermaster General. At that time, however, our members will be further informed.

TWO OUTSTANDING WORLD WAR II LEADERS BECOME MEMBERS

Among the many whom we welcome as new members of the Association during the past several months, it is a particular privilege to extend greetings to General of the Army Henry Harley Arnold, former Commanding General of the Army Air Forces (now the Air Force), and General Thomas Holcomb, former Commandant of the Marine Corps.

General Arnold in his more than 42 years of service watched and helped the United States air arm grow from a fledgling corps of two planes to the mightiest air armada the world has ever seen.

Two years after graduation from the Military Academy with the class of 1907, he gained assignment to the aviation section of the Signal Corps. From that date forward, General Arnold became a "first" in many phases of aviation progress and development. He won the first of all U. S. Military Aviator badges, when the idea was, if you could keep the "thing" in the air, you were a pilot. However, time and experience indicated that General Arnold could do more than just fly, at which he soon became expert.

An early advocate of the potentialities of aviation, he was the first man to fly the mail—the first military aviator to use radio for reporting military observations—and he made generous contribution in developing the first practicable bombsight for military use. He organized and commanded the first aerial defense of the Panama Canal early in 1917. In 1918, General Arnold served with the newly established Bureau of Military Aeronautics and shortly attained status as its assistant director.

In the intervening years between World War I and World War II, General Arnold wholeheartedly devoted himself to bring our air power to required strength "before the next war comes upon us." The accuracy of his foresight has now been proved by history; nowithstanding the many who doubted his theories.

Upon the death of General Westover in 1938 as the result of a plane crash, General Arnold became Chief of the Air Corps and continued to head that force until his retirement. He left with his successor in office the thought which had long been prominent in his mind—a second-best air force is like a second-best poker hand—no good at all.

As a cadet at the Point he was given the nickname of "Happy" which was soon shortened to "Hap"; and it is our feeling that a good reason for General Arnold's continued claim to that nomer must be in the satisfaction which comes from the distinguished service he rendered the country by his notable contribution toward bringing the late war to victorious conclusion.

General Holcomb served as Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1 December 1936 to 1 January 1944, on which date he retired after nearly 44 years of distinguished active service.

Under General Holcomb's able administration as Commandant, the strength of the Marine Corps expanded from 16,000 to about 300,000.

In recognition of his brilliant record and outstanding ability, General Holcomb was the first Marine officer to attain 4-star rank.

After retirement, upon appointment by the President, General Holcomb served over 4 years as United States Minister to the Union of South Africa.

He now resides at Rose Croft, St. Marys City, Maryland.

MARINE CORPS DAY—10 NOVEMBER

Our Association is proud and honored to join with the many in extending greetings to the United States Marine Corps on the occasion of its 173rd Anniversary.

Since 10 November 1775, when Marines were first authorized by the Continental Congress, they have served the nation in peace and in war—in a manner truly exemplifying the motto of their Corps, "SEMPER FIDELIS."

Today, cast in the role of "Guardians of the Peace," the Marines are serving 'round the globe. In the very shadows of Tripoli where they fought off pirates as early as 1803, they are again sailing the Mediterranean in ships of the Fleet—not as an aggressive military force, but rather as one equipped to keep a touchy situation "under control."

On the other side of the earth's surface, they are in China—on the island of Guam—and other Pacific outposts from the Aleutians to the Marianas.

The esprit of the Marines is unsurpassed. Often tried—never denied—this fighting force stands today, as always, ready for "action" on a moment's notice to fulfill its basic mission of providing closely integrated forces of combined arms, including air, to seize or defend advance Naval bases, and to conduct such land operations as may be essential to the prosecution of a Naval campaign.

It has, moreover, perfected methods of amphibious assault and devised new techniques for beachhead landings. These arrive from experiences gained in World War II, when gallant Marine achievements contributed many glowing chapters to a history already replete with instances truly meriting a hearty "Well Done."

Immediately following the disastrous attack on Pearl Harbor, the only good news to sustain a stunned America were the cryptic messages from an isolated Marine outpost in the Pacific, fighting against hopeless odds, reading: "Midway continues to resist." Then, on to Guadalcanal and other enemy-held Pacific islands, one after another, fighting Marines made substantial contributions in paving the way to VICTORY. Their glorious triumph at Iwo Jima, in the flag raising on Mount Suribachi, became a symbol of deathless courage to a nation, a still further manifestation of "SEMPER FIDELIS"—faith in God, in Country, and in the conviction that our land must forever stand—a land of the free and a home of the brave.

We felicitate the Marines on their accomplishments of the past, and wish them Godspeed in all their future objectives.

PAY CHECKAGES AGAINST RETIRED OFFICERS TO REIMBURSE THE GOVERNMENT FOR OVERPAYMENTS

We are asked from time to time whether legal authorization exists under which the Government may check the pay accounts of retired officers in order to reimburse it for overpayments which have been made to them.

Such authorization exists under Title 5, United States Code, Volume I, page 78, which is quoted as follows:

> "After May 26, 1936, whenever upon the statement of the account of any disbursing officer of the United States in the General Accounting Office credit shall have been disallowed for any payment to any person in the executive branch of the Government, otherwise entitled to compensation from the United States or from any agency or instrumentality thereof, such compensation of the payee may be withheld until full reimbursement has been accomplished under such regulations as may be prescribed by the head of the department, branch, or independent establishment (including corporations) under which such payee is entitled to receive compensation: *Prov ded*, That nothing contained in this section shall be construed to repeal or in any way modify laws existing on May 26, 1936, relating to the collection of the indebtedness of accountable or disbursing officers. (May 26, 1936, ch. 452, 49 Stat. 1374)."

Prior to the enactment of this law and until the decisions of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, in the cases of *McCarl et al.* v. *Cox*, 8 Fed. Rep. (2nd) 669, and *McCarl* v. *Pence*, 18 Fed. Rep. (2nd) 809, the latter of which was decided on April 4, 1927, which cases denied the right of the Government to effect such checkages against military officers, the right to check the accounts of military officers for overpayments had long been accepted as existing independent of expressed statutory authorization and had been so exercised.

On January 18, 1928, after the above decisions had been rendered, the Comptroller General of the United States directed that under the circumstances of the decisions, and pending the enactment of legislation authorizing the deduction from the pay and allowances of those in the military services of amounts they had been previously overpaid or for which they were otherwise indebted to the United States, there be filed with any proposed checkage the written consent to such deductions of those from whose pay the deductions were to be made. As indicated above, the law authorizing checkages was passed on May 26, 1936.

Where an overpayment has been made, however, if the amount is sizable and to make the checkage in one lump sum would create hardship upon the individual and those dependent upon him, the law authorizes discretion in the head of the department or other agency of the Government in which the payee is serving as to the manner in which the amount is to be recovered and arrangements for the discharge of the indebtedness by periodic installments are currently arranged to reduce as much as possible the hardship upon one so involved.

COAST GUARD OFFICERS RETIRED AFTER 40 YEARS SERVICE ENTITLED TO ADVANCED RANK AND PAY

In a recent decision of the Court of Claims of the United States in the case of L. C. Covell v. The United States, No. 46240 (decided 6 July 1948), it was held that an officer of the Coast Guard who has served more than 40 years and retires, shall be "placed on the retired list with the rank and retired pay of one grade above that actually held by him at the time of retirement", under the provisions of section 3 of the Act of 12 January 1923 (42 Stat. 1130).

(Ed. Note—*It is interesting to note that there is no such law under which officers of the other branches of the uniformed services with more than 40 years service may be retired with advanced rank and pay thereof.*)

KEEP THE FAITH

A story recently coming to our attention which we liked concerns a little girl who lost a favorite cat. She was much disturbed but she was also very religious. She made this unhappy experience a matter of prayer. She told God all about the cat. She described it in detail and explained carefully just when the cat disappeared. And then she issued the ultimatum. "And now, God", she said as she closed her prayer, "I will give you just one week to find it, and then I will look for it myself". When the cat returned within three days this little girl's faith in prayer was definitely established.

Be of good courage—keep the faith. When our courage is strong and our faith high, life's problems will loom minor by comparison.

MEMBER SERVICE—WITH A SMILE

In line with the slogan of the Staff—"SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS" — we see here our genial Supervisor of the Membership Department, Lieutenant Earl Mosher—after a heavy day's work—but still smiling—on his way to the Post Office with an average day's mail. Asked how he stays so happy, Lieutenant Mosher replied, "It's fun doing things you like to do, and I get a kick out of trying to make others happy, too." If by chance *you* didn't receive your Bulletin—just write to "Happy" Mosher, and he'll gladly get one off to you "pronto."

COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S DECISIONS

Two decisions have recently been rendered by the Comptroller General of interest to retired officers.

The Comptroller General has held in his decision B-75924 of 28 October 1948 that an Army officer retired for age having less than twenty years' service at the time of his retirement is entitled to receive retired pay computed on the basis provided in subsection (e) (1) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947 and such retired pay may not be less than 50 per centum of the base pay and longevity pay he would receive if serving on active duty in the grade in which retired in view of the expressed provision in that subsection.

This decision resulted from a request by the Department of the Army as to whether or not an officer of the Regular Army retired for age under the provisions of subsection 514 (a) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, Public Law 381, approved August 7, 1947 (61 Stat. 902), with less than twenty years' service, is entitled to any retired pay and, if so, whether his retired pay may be less than 50 per centum of the base and longevity pay he would receive if serving on active duty in the grade in which retired.

It was pointed out in the decision that subsection 514 (a) provides generally for the retirement of officers of the Regular Army upon reaching the age of 60, 62, or 64 years, depending on their grade or status, and that subsection (a) (3) provides for retirements in such cases in the permanent grade held at the time of retirement and likewise provides for the method of computing retired pay in such cases.

In commenting upon subsection 514 (e) (shown in the act as (c)) which appears to require at least twenty years' service to entitle one to retirement pay, the opinion stated that this portion of the section "refers only to officers 'eliminated' as provided in that section," but that those with less than twenty years' service are nevertheless entitled to retirement when retired for age.

In decision B-80804, 23 November 1948, the Comptroller General made several important interpretations of Title III, P.L. 810 (80th Congress), concerning the retirement of officers of the Reserve components, which decision was received after this issue had gone to press. Among other things, it was held that one must be a member of a Reserve component at the time of application for retirement, even though he would otherwise have been entitled to retirement on the basis of his previous service. It was also held that 29 June and not 1 July is the date upon which the post-enactment method of computing points becomes effective. In all, seven questions were submitted to and answered by the Comptroller General. Detailed information relative to these interpretations and copies of the instant Comptroller General's decision will be made available, upon request, to interested members.

Regulations on the subject of Reserve retirements will shortly be issued by the National Military Establishment, concerning which information also will be furnished, when available.

OBITUARIES

We pause in deep reverence and honor to the memory of the following of our members for whom taps have been sounded since 1 October, last. May their brave souls forever rest in peace—

Captain Leonard P. Bell, USA, Ret.
Captain Alexander Berwick, USA, Ret.
Chief Pay Clerk F. J. Bisson, USN, Ret.
Captain William J. Black, USA, Ret.
Colonel Francis W. Bordleau, AUS, Ret.
Lieutenant Gertrude P. Chavez, ANC, Ret.
Colonel Francis W. Clark, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Joseph J. Cox, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel C. P. Cullen, USA, Ret.
Captain Cleland Davis, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant A. L. Eastman, USSMC, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel C. S. Frank, USA, Ret.
Rear Admiral Sinclair Gannon, USN, Ret.
Commander Irvin V. Gillis, USN, Ret.
Colonel F. B. Hennessy, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel G. C. Hollingsworth, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel E. O. Hopkins, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander D. H. Hunter, USN, Ret.
Colonel A. B. Kaempfer, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel C. K. LaMotte, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel I. G. Marrin, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant T. M. McKevlin, USCG, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander J. N. McTwiggan, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel E. K. Meredith, USA, Ret.
Colonel E. J. Moran, USA, Ret.
Rear Admiral C. M. Oman, (MC), USN, Ret.
Captain Edward N. Reeves, USA, Ret.
Colonel J. A. Ruggles, USA, Ret.
Major Herman Schierloh, USA, Ret.
Warrant Officer H. J. Smith, USA, Ret.
Major Frank Tillotson, USA, Ret.
Chief Pharmacist E. E. Weaver, USN, Ret.
Brigadier General J. B. Wilson, USMC, Ret.
Lieutenant August Wohltman, USN, Ret.

CHANGES IN THE DIRECTORATE

Because of ill health, Colonel Lawrence C. Crawford, USA, Retired, recently submitted his resignation as a member of the Board of Directors. In accepting the resignation, our President, Admiral Hamlet, wrote Colonel Crawford stating that only with the deepest regret had the Board taken action to comply with his expressed wish to be relieved from further service.

Major General James A. Ulio, USA, Retired, was unanimously elected to replace Colonel Crawford on the Board. After completing a distinguished career of over 45 years, during which time he advanced from the rank of private to that of major general, General Ulio was retired on 21 January 1946. At the time of his retirement he was serving as The Judge Advocate General of the Army, which assignment he had held since 1 March 1942.

PREAMBLE TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

To inculcate and stimulate love of our Country and the flag; and to defend the honor, integrity and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;

To foster fraternal relations between all branches of the various services from which our members are drawn;

To aid the retired personnel of the various services from which our members are drawn in every proper and legitimate manner; and

To present their rights and interests when service matters are under consideration, we unite to form the RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 30 NOV 1948

Cash in Bank (Hamilton National Bank), 30 Nov 1048	$5,886.62
Petty Cash on Hand	25.00
Total Available Cash	5,911.62
U. S. GOVERNMENT BONDS	20,560.00
Total Available Fiscal Assets	26,471.62
Book Value of Office Equipment	2,985.06
Worth as of 30 Nov 1948	$29,456.68

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN AS OF 30 NOV 1948

ARMY	6,025
NAVY	4,947
MARINE CORPS	705
COAST GUARD	846
COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY	48
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE	49
TOTAL	12,620
LIFE MEMBERS (Non-dues-paying-status)	984
LIFE MEMBERS (Dues-paying-status)	1,122
MEMBERS (Male)	5,911
MEMBERS (Female)	272
RESERVE MEMBERS (Male)	3,884
RESERVE MEMBERS (Female)	447
TOTAL	12,620

USE OF MILITARY TITLES IN CONNECTION WITH COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

In pursuance of a joint policy approved by the several service Secretaries concerned, the following provisions set forth the conditions under which personnel of the uniformed services may use their military titles in connection with commercial enterprises:

(a) All personnel of the *** services on active duty, including regular, retired, and reserve officers and enlisted men, are forbidden to use their service ranks or ratings in connection with any commercial enterprises. Authorship of any material approved for publication shall be specifically exempted from this provision, subject to existing regulations.

(b) All personnel of the *** services on inactive duty, including reserve, retired regular, and retired reserve officers and enlisted men are permitted to use their *** service ranks or ratings in connection with commercial enterprises.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Retired Officers Association shall be limited to men and women who are retired commissioned officers, warrant officers and nurses of the regular Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and those officers of the Public Health Service who are on permanent waiting orders, and of the Reserve components of the services mentioned.

Membership shall be of four classes, viz:

(a) LIFE MEMBERS—Those who became such prior to 15 September 1945, or became such pursuant to (b).

(b) ASSOCIATE MEMBERS—Those who joined the Association *prior* to 15 September 1945, and who will become LIFE MEMBERS upon full payment of $30.00.

(c) MEMBERS—Those of the regular services joining on or after 15 September 1945.

(d) RESERVE MEMBERS—Those of the Reserve components joining on or after 26 September 1947.

LIFE MEMBERS, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS and MEMBERS shall be entitled to vote upon any matter properly submitted to the membership for vote.

To RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,
1600 Twentieth St., N. W., Washington 9, D. C.

Date .....

Gentlemen:—

You may enroll me as a member of the Retired Officers Association. Inclosed is check for $5.00.

Entrance fee	$1.00	*Fifty cents of which is for subscription to Association Bulletin.*
Annual dues	4.00	
	$5.00	

Name .....

(Please Print)

Rank and Service .....

Mailing Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

1st Lieut. L. J. V., SC, AUS, Ret—May I take this opportunity to tell you how pleased I was to be extended the privilege of joining the Association. Your recent Bulletin was most interesting.

Lt-Comd. W. A. C., USN, Ret—The article on service pay in the 3rd Quarter was excellent.

Lt-Col. F. A. S., USA, Ret—I have been advanced on the retired list of the Army to Lt-Col. (in accordance with P.L. 810). I would like to thank the Association for their part in getting this legislation passed. The efforts exerted are surely more than appreciated and I am very grateful.

Bosn. C.G., USCG, Ret—The Retired Officers Association is rendering a great service to all its members by keeping them informed through the Bulletin. Keep up the good work.

Capt. C.L.H., ANC, Ret—Please accept my appreciation for the Association's active interest in behalf of the Retired Nurses of the ANC. This means so much to us oldtimers.

Lieut. (jg) J.F.H., USNR, Ret—It is gratifying to be part and parcel of such a wonderful organization and that we have such interested men guiding its affairs. I know the Retired Officers Association will be a success and I will do all I can to help make it so.

Nurse G.M.B., USN, Ret—It is nice to know that retired members of the services have an efficient Association to help them.

Capt. A.L.M., AUS, Ret—It is with a great deal of pleasure that I wear the emblem of the Retired Officers Association on my coat lapel and I am happy to have observed an increasing number of that honored insignia being worn by many of my comrades in arms.

Col. A.W.E., USMC, Ret—I commend the organization for the excellent progress attained and the many fine works accomplished.

Capt. G.T.R., USC&GS, Ret—The Bulletin is steadily improving. I am sure it will be a means of increasing our membership.

Maj. G.E.M., HonRes, USA, Ret—After reviewing some of your quarterly news Bulletins I feel that the membership dues are readily justified.

NOTES TO MEMBERS

In corresponding with National Headquarters, it would be most helpful if our members will furnish their permanent address, rank, service from which retired, and sign or print signature so as to be readily legible.

Membership cards are not customarily renewed annually. These cards, once issued, serve as "permanent" evidence of membership. New cards will, however, be furnished gladly in case of loss or defacement. In applying for reissue, members are asked to indicate their membership number, or the approximate date they became a member.

Once a member, it is desired that application for membership blanks be not used in transmitting annual dues.

There has been an unavoidable delay in filling a number of recent orders for lapel rosettes signifying membership in the Retired Officers Association, due to our stock having become depleted. A new supply is expected in the very near future, and the present blacklog as well as all new orders will receive prompt attention at that time.

For those of our members who have previously inquired if we accept contributions, we ask that they take notice of our article reporting the foundation of an Association sponsored Scholarship Program appearing elsewhere in this edition. It is hoped that all of our members will give what they can to assist in making this worthy project an actual reality.

Regular Bulletins are published quarterly on the following schedule: 1st Quarter, 15 December; 2nd Quarter, 15 March; 3rd Quarter, 15 June; 4th Quarter, 15 September. Should any member fail to receive his copy, write us and we will supply one.

Be sure and advise the Association of any change in mailing address. This insures prompt delivery of the Bulletin and immediate contact in matters of intefest and importance. Please furnish old and new addresses in such cases.

Members are urged to encourage their friends who are eligible to join the Association. We will be glad to send a copy of the Bulletin to any non-member interested in our activities. Mail such requests to—Retired Officers Association, 1600 20th Street, N.W., Washington 9, D. C.

AND AGAIN WE SAY—

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION BULLETIN
1600 Twentieth Street, N.W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Entered as second class matter, May 2, 1945, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED